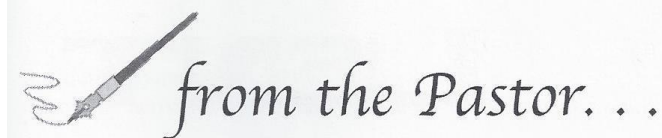


The St. Paul Epistle

Published monthly by
St. Paul Evangelical
Lutheran Church
Orion, Illinois
July/August 2022



At our most recent annual Synod Assembly, held in June, we elected a new Bishop in our Northern Illinois Synod. As part of the election process, the final 3 candidates for Bishop spoke to the Assembly and answered prepared questions. During her time, Pr. Stacie Fidler (now our Bishop-Elect), spoke about her love of gardening and her conversation with another pastor who is also a gardener. She used the image of a gardener to speak about what our Synod and congregations could use right now: people to think like gardeners, seeing what areas of ministry need to be tended, watered, or cared for in a particular way.

I liked that image of a gardener for a variety of reasons: 1) it speaks to the way ministry is like planting seeds and bearing fruit and also requires faith and work. 2) It reminds us that we can be patient with ourselves and with each other and ask for help. 3) It points us to the reality that it is okay to focus on things that need tending, as long as we are being faithful.

I think that our proposed move to one worship service time on Sundays year round is an example of "faithful gardening". It will allow us to live out our mission, be together in fellowship, and help us be who we are more authentically, rather than worrying about the number of people present in worship at a particular worship time.

We are stronger together when we gather as the body of Christ. Please join us for worship

on Saturday at 6:00 pm or Sunday at 9:00 am as we continue with our Summer Worship Schedule and as we discern the best way and time for us to gather in worship together. Please ask any of our Council Members (Adam Bakener, Nick Border, Andy Dahl, Randy DeBaillie, Lori Dhabalt, Elisa Fliege, Diane Gainey, Gloria Grafton, Joyce Hepner, Heather Hoftender, Susan Lee or Joe Schmieder) or me any questions you might have. Thank you!

Peace be with you,
Pastor Gwen

Pastor Lekander Visiting St.

Paul:

Pastor Lekander will be at St. Paul to worship with us on Sunday, July 3rd. He will say a few words and will also play piano while Jan Enders plays the organ, to the hymn he wrote, "To Heights and From the Depths of Sod". Pastor Lekander dedicated that hymn to the congregation when St. Paul honored him on his twenty-fifth anniversary of his ordination. Hope you can make it!

August Calendar:

Please note that the August calendar will be out at the end of July. That gives us time to make any changes we need to make and also to keep our congregation informed of these changes. We will send out an update for any changes in a short August Newsletter.

Volunteers needed for St. Paul tent during Fall Fest!

We are looking for volunteers to attend the St. Paul Booth during Fall Fest weekend. September 2nd-4th.

Please see Terri Werkheiser if you would like to sign-up.

Thank you:

Thank you to my church family and friends for the cards and greetings I received for my 95th Birthday. God has blessed me with a great family and many friends during my lifetime.

“With God’s Blessings”
Mardelle Aukland

Thank you for your support, prayers, food, kindness, and thoughtfulness; it means so much and is deeply appreciated.

Thank you,

Tom & Julie Seabloom & family

St. Paul Lutheran Church,
Annual Pork Chop Supper & Ice
Cream Social:



Sunday, July 3rd beginning at
5:00 PM.

Join us for great food, fellowship, and music provided by the Orion Community Band. All are invited to attend. The Orion Lighted Parade and Fireworks will be held the same evening. Many volunteers are needed to make this

annual event a success. Please sign-up for donate supplies, prepare food, serve customers, clean-up, and help in many other ways. This event is one of the largest outreach activities to the community, so plan to be a part of it! Sign-up sheets are available in the West Connection.

NEW WORSHIP TIME:



We are planning to have one worship service at 9:00 AM until further notice. Sunday school times will be 10:15 – 11:00 AM. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 18th.

Church Council Highlights:

Review of Ark Policy. Request that Nikki remind people where the garbage cans are when Ark reservations are made, to avoid problems with garbage disposal.

Breeze Updates for e-mail addresses-on-going project to make sure we have the most current e-mail addresses for members and identify people who aren't receiving messages from the church.

One Worship Service Year-Round Discussion.

2022 Finances:



2022 income: \$83,319.03
2022 expenses: \$83,011.13
Year to Date: \$307.90

Flower Chart 2022:



A **NEW** flower chart for 2022 is available in the narthex. You may sign up to provide flowers for 1 or 2 vases for our worship services. Flowers may be given in honor or memory of loved ones. Please pay for your flowers (\$25 per vase) at the time you sign up to provide them in the box located directly beneath the flower sign-up chart. **The following dates are available:**

July 3, 10, 17, 24, 30
August 7
September 11
October 2, 9, 25, 30
November 13, 20, 27
December 11, 18

Church Offices Closed:

Church offices will be closed on Wednesday, July 6, Thursday, July 7, and Friday, July 8, for staff vacations. Church office will reopen on Monday, July 11th. **Tuesday, July 5th, church offices will be open from 9-1. Thank you!**

Orion Area Food Pantry & Volunteer Information:



Each year, the Orion Area Food Pantry asks members of each of the area churches to help on food distribution days. **Distribution days: Tuesdays from 4-6 PM**, except for Easter, Thanksgiving, and Christmas meal distributions, which have longer distribution hours. Distributions take place at the lower level of the village hall. If you can help with any of these dates, please sign up on the bulletin board located in the courtyard hallway. St. Paul's month for donations is **March and September**.

LCW News & Events:

WELCA is now LCW
(Lutheran Church Women).



LCW Meeting/Social Stitchers:

No breakfast at the Windmill the month of July.

Activity Days:

No activity days in July

July Birthdays:

HAPPY
BIRTHDAY

Pettifer, Amber	07/01
Samuelson, Terry	07/01
Shepherd, Paul	07/01
Vestal, Molly	07/01
Kerker, Grace	07/03
DeBaillie, Nathan	07/04
Sainer, Donna	07/04
Brems, Emma	07/05
Cröse, Braylin	07/06
Jess, Erika	07/06
Lowery, Summer	07/06
Malmen, Betty	07/07
Terry, Clara	07/08
Koch, David	07/09
Larson, Haley	07/09
Hutton, Susan	07/10
Werkheiser, Kevin	07/10
Boney, Janet	07/11
Seabloom, Nicole	07/11
Willis, Hollis	07/11
Hofreiter, Grace	07/12
Stiles, Lisa	07/12
Border, Joseph	07/13
Hepner, Luke	07/14
Willis, Payton	07/14
Bainbridge, Carter	07/15
Halferty, Bryce	07/15
Peterson, Bryan	07/15
Stiles, Cory	07/16
Meier, Janet	07/18
Marshall, Griffin	07/19
Filler, Kasey	07/20
Beck, Robert	07/21
Hepner, Kimberly	07/22
Lawyer, Michael	07/22
Schroeder, Thad	07/22
Parrish, Raymond	07/23
Bowers, Kristopher	07/24
Chelstrom, Abby	07/24
Christensen, Lexi	07/24
Dahl, Neil	07/24
Bakener, Brandon	07/25
Grafton, Gloria	07/26
Lees, Aron	07/26
Volbruck, Larry	07/29

Coulter, Lauren	07/30
Filler, Chip	07/30
Hoffman, Scott	07/30
Campbell, Mia	07/31

July Baptismal Anniversaries:



Tyler Nelson	07/02
Violet Schaffer	07/02
Sonja Solberg	07/02
Taylor Werkheiser	07/05
Grace Kerker	07/06
Ella Peterson	07/06
JoLee Thrasher	07/06
Lauren Johnson	07/08
Ashten Nguyen	07/08
Emersyn Crawford	07/09
Jonathan Schroeder	07/09
Harold Larson	07/10
Noah Belowske	07/12
Susan Lee	07/13
Kayla Halferty	07/15
Rick Hepner	07/15
Neva Lees-Soerensen	07/15
Kimberly Hepner	07/20
Vicki Howard	07/21
Jeffrey Malmen	07/21
Jenna Nelson	07/21
Scott Peterson	07/21
Thomas Hepner	07/22
Carla Roome	07/22
Sara Schutte	07/22
Kyle DeBaillie	07/23
Dennis Pettifer	07/26
Regyn Buffington	07/27
Randy DeBaillie	07/28
Aven Vail	07/28
Laurie Johnson	07/29
Thad Schroeder	07/30

August Birthdays:

Larson, Hunter	08/01
Rus, Jonathan	08/03
Sadofsky, Nathan	08/03
Weaver, Reilly	08/03
Anderson, Dwayne	08/05
DeBaillie, Luke	08/05
Belowske, Jody	08/06
Bowers, Rachel	08/06
Rose, Linda	08/07
Brems, Ryan	08/08
Pettifer, Susan	08/09
Swanson, David	08/09
Lievens, Darrin	08/10
Gritton, Emily	08/11
Nguyen, Kelly	08/11
Peterson, Brady	08/12
Bloomberg, DeAnne	08/14
Nelson, Tyler	08/14
Roome, Kimberly	08/15
Coulter, Brenda	08/16
Carlson, Anne	08/18
Frey, Ronald	08/18
Hampton, Bill	08/18
VanDuyne, Kimberley	08/18
Smith, Kevin	08/19
DeLille, Haley	08/20
Baraks, Jana	08/21
Bowers, David	08/22
Jacobsen, Sarah	08/22
DeBaillie, James	08/23
Houser, Liam	08/24
Johnson, Cynthia	08/24
Lindgren, Finlee	08/24
Noecker, Shirley	08/24
Filler, Jill	08/25
Johnson, Jennifer	08/26
Anderson, Alyssa	08/27
Bowling, Amy	08/28
Smith, Kaleb	08/28
Vestal, Maggie	08/28
Carroll, Wilma	08/29
Bollinger, Malia	08/30
Carey, Leslie	08/30
Whitsell, Carley	08/30
Holton, Nicholas	08/31
Willis, Jamie	08/31

August Baptismal

Anniversaries:



Taylor Coulter	08/02
Susan Hutton	08/02
Adam Burgert	08/03
Luke Burgert	08/03
Boyd Peterson	08/04
Quinn Pettifer	08/05
Paul Shepherd	08/05
Chloe DeBaillie	08/08
Denise Border	08/09
Scott Hoffman	08/09
Andrew Dahl	08/15
Craig Stiles	08/15
Russell DeBaillie	08/16
Caden Rochleau	08/16
Cael Rochleau	08/16
Kelly Rochleau	08/16
Darby Hepner	08/18
Rachel Bowers	08/19
Lorraine Mullen	08/20
Addy Vail	08/20
Ayla Vail	08/20
Gretchen Kerker	08/22
Jacob Kruse	08/25
Jana Baraks	08/26
Stephen Gainey	08/26
Grace Hofreiter	08/26
Alisa Holst	08/26
Amy Koch	08/26
Linda Kunert	08/26
Norine Sandau	08/27
Quinn Hoftender	08/29
Jonathan Rus	08/29

July/August Worship

Volunteers:



Worship volunteers have been assigned for the **month of July/August**. If you see that you will be unavailable on a certain Sunday to which you have been assigned, please switch with another member and call Mary Lindgren at 521-8658 to let her know the changes. Mary has been calling the worship volunteers each week as a reminder of their duties, and she will relay these changes to our church secretary. **If you know you will be absent during certain timeframes, please let Nikki know so she doesn't schedule you to volunteer during that time. Thank you! Your assistance is appreciated! Thank you!**

July 3, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Ray Parrish
Communion Helpers: Kim Nightingale & Sheryl Hiatt
Lector: Lori Dhabalt
Sound System: Lisa Johnston
Acolyte: Anna Churchill
Altar Guild: Judy Frenell & Jody Belowske
Lawn Care (07/03 – 07/09): Brad Gainey

July 10, 2022 (no communion):

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Kim Nightingale
Lector: Beth Hoffman
Sound System: Lori Dhabalt
Acolyte: Tyler Sandberg
Altar Guild: Hannah Stockton & Sarah Frenell
Lawn Care (07/10 – 07/16): Ray Parrish

July 17, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Rick & Joyce Hepner
Lector: Jan Enders
Communion Helpers: Jim & Dianna DeBaillie
Sound System: Sheryl Hiatt
Acolyte: Jaxon Lindgren
Altar Guild: Mary Lindgren & Jeannine Filler
Lawn Care (07/17 – 07/23): Mike Hepner

July 24, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Jerry & Norine Sandau
Lector: Diane Gainey
Communion Helpers: Lori Dhabalt & Rod Ward
Sound System: Jeff Schroeder
Acolyte: Anna Churchill
Altar Guild: Joyce Hepner
Lawn Care (07/24 – 07/30): Kevin Werkheiser

July 31, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Randy & Cindy DeBaillie
Lector: Sheryl Hiatt
Communion Helpers: Kim Nightingale & Sheryl Hiatt
Sound System: Lisa Johnston
Acolyte: Aliyah McRae
Altar Guild: Teresa Carlson
Lawn Care (07/31 – 08/06): John Carlson

August 7, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Lisa Stiles & Laura Douglas
Lector: Jane Helke
Communion Helpers: Judy Frenell & Sarah Frenell
Sound System: Lori Dhabalt
Acolyte: Noah Belowske
Altar Guild: Beth Hoffman
Lawn Care (08/08 – 08/14): Nick Border

August 14, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Gregg & Jan Meier
Lector: Diane Gainey
Communion Helpers: Jim & Dianna DeBaillie
Sound System: Sheryl Hiatt
Acolyte: Wylie Fliege
Altar Guild: Debbie Dahl
Lawn Care (08/14 – 08/20): Joe Schmieder

August 21, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Ken & Deb Pulford
Lector: Cindy DeBaillie
Communion Helpers: Lori Dhabalt & Rod Ward
Sound System: Jeff Schroeder
Acolyte: Gavin Kerker
Altar Guild: Judy Frenell & Jody Belowske
Lawn Care (08/21 – 08/28): Brad Gainey

August 28th (God's Work. Our Hands):

9:00 AM:
Altar Guild: Hannah Stockton & Sarah Frenell
Lawn Care (08/28 – 09/03): Ray Parrish

September 4th, 2022:

9:00 AM:
Greeters: Ray Parrish
Lector: Georgia Veyette
Communion Helpers: Kim Nightingale & Sheryl Hiatt
Sound System: Lisa Johnston
Acolyte: Tyler Sandberg
Altar Guild: Mary Lindgren & Jeannine Filler
Lawn Care (09/04 – 09/10): Ray Parrish

Endowment Ministry Programs

Fund:

Grant application forms are in the hallway. The Endowment Committee will review all applications and recommend a plan of distribution, which Church Council will review. Please turn your form into the church office when it is completed.



Thank you for continued donations for the Blessing Bags! As a reminder, we are always in need of donations, such as: warm socks, chap-stick, hand warmers, deodorant, protein snacks, wipes, granola bars, rain ponchos, Kleenex, and gum. Please make sure they are travel-sized and individually wrapped. There is a collection box in the hallway. The completed blessing bags are also in the hallway. Please feel free to take and distribute.

Thank you,
Family Life Committee

College Student Request:



If you are moving and changing addresses, please contact Nikki in the church office. We send out care packages and want to make sure your package will make it to you. Thank you!

Special Music Volunteers:



If you would be interested in providing special music (vocal or instrumental) for one of our worship services during the summer, please contact Jan Enders or the church office. We invite you to share your talents with us.

Garden Surplus:



Our garden surplus table is back once again!! If you have any extra fruits or vegetables, you have grown this summer, we encourage you to bring them to church to share with those who can't or don't have a garden. A table will be available near the west entrance for your produce. Thank you for sharing!

Backpack and Breakfast

Programs:

Thank you, members of St. Paul, for your generous donations to the backpack and breakfast programs at the Orion Schools. We hope to resume donations once again in the fall, thanks to your support.

God's Work. Our Hands:

God's work.
Our hands.

On **Sunday, August 28th at 8:30 AM**, we will celebrate our eighth annual, "God's Work – Our Hands" service. This is our opportunity to celebrate who we are as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America – on church, freed in Christ to serve and love our neighbor.

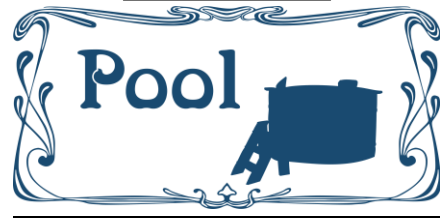
There will be service projects for all ages with no experience necessary! There will be a brief worship/commissioning service to start the day. After our community service is done, we will meet up at Love Park for a potluck lunch.

Please mark your calendars and plan to join us!



CUFF EVENT: Swimming at the pool

in Geneseo:



Please join us on Saturday, August 13th from 5:30 – 7:30. Mark your calendars! Please feel free to bring your friends! It will be a fun night!

Save the Dates for Middle and high school students:

Open to all Middle School and High School Youth.

July 18th and 19th, afternoon until evening. Mini-Mission Trip Experience at Cornerstone Retreat Center (former Hillcrest Resort). More information to come.

Open to all Middle School and High School Youth, with a special invitation to Confirmation Students who have not yet gone to Confirmation Camp.

Sunday July 31st-Hiking Trip to Starved Rock State Park.

Leave after worship around 11 am from church. Bring a packed lunch and a water bottle. Return to church around 6 pm.